

## Message Text

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56

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 IO-13 /062 W

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P R 291819Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8477

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS BONN 07219

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR US GW XA

SUBJECT: FRG SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 101040;

BEGIN SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAS EMPHASIZED TO THE PRESS, BLACK AFRICANS AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR THAT THE FRG SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS IN AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ADDITION TO THE CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENTS (REFTEL), GENSCHER HAS ALSO ENDORSED US GOALS IN AFRICA.

2. ON APRIL 23 GENSCHER TOLD VISITING UGANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER JUMA ORIS "THAT THE TIMES OF COLONIALISM AND RACISM IN AFRICA ARE OVER." HE ADDED THAT BONN HAS ALWAYS BEEN ON THE SIDE OF AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE. HE ADVOCATED SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA, SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT THE RHODESIAN CONFLICT WILL BE SETTLED PEACEFULLY.

3. GENSCHER TOLD THE PRC AMBASSADOR ON FEBRUARY 26 THAT "THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGARDS THE SECRETARY'S

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TRIP TO AFRICA AS AN IMPORTANT AND WELCOME INITIATIVE."

BOTH DIPLOMATS ANNOUNCED THE HOPE THAT THE COUNTRIES OF AFRICA COULD BE INDEPENDENT AND STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET.

4. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, GENSCHER SUMMONED THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR TO SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT IN PRETORIA BEARS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY IN VIEW OF PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA, ADDING THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD HAVE TO EXERCISE ITS DIRECT OR INDIRECT INFLUENCE TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS.

5. GENSCHER REPORTEDLY TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT IN HIS RECENT TALKS WITH BLACK AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HE GAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT MODERATE VOICES IN AFRICA WERE IN DANGER OF BEING DISPLACED BY EXTREMIST CONCEPTS. BONN ALSO HAD A CLEAR LONG-TERM INTEREST IN SEEING THAT SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED IN A MANNER ALLOWING BLACKS AND WHITES TO LIVE TOGETHER. AT THE PRESENT IMPORTANT STAGE FORCES WHICH SAW THEIR FUTURE IN COOPERATING WITH THE FREE NATIONS OF THE WORLD MUST BE STRENGTHENED.

6. GENSCHER IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE TOLD THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR THAT AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN THINKING WAS "FULLY IDENTICAL," AS WAS SHOWN BY THE AFRICAN TOUR OF US SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER.

7. GENSCHER IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED THAT THE RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN PROBLEMS MUST BE SOLVED QUICKLY BECAUSE "TIME WAS RUNNING OUT FOR COLONIALISM AND RACISM." SOUTH AFRICA HAD A DECISIVE ROLE TO PLAY, AND IT COULD MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION IN AFRICA IF IT WERE NOW TO "DISCARD BALLAST."  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, POLICIES, SPEECHES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 76 STATE 101040  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <24 JAN 2005 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRG SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS IN AFRICA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, GE, XA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (GENSCHER, HANS-DRETRICH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006